

Mr. L. G. Jarvis has been appointed in charge of the new poultry department at the Ontario Agricultural College.

Secretary J. W. Wheaton, of the Western Ontario Dairymen's Association, announces that the annual convention will be held at Stratford on January 15th, 16th and 17th.

Joseph E. Stubbs, LL. D., President of the State University of Nevada, has been made also Director of the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station, *vice* Stephen A. Jones, resigned.

Major H. E. Alvord has accepted the presidency of the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, Stillwater, Oklahoma. He has also been offered the presidency of his Alma Mater, Norwich University, Vermont.

Mr. E. G. Lodeman, instructor in horticulture at Cornell University, has sailed for Europe, to study the diseases of grapes in France and Italy, and the methods of treating these diseases there, by spraying and otherwise. He will spend the summer among the European vineyards.

Prof. Collier, in Geneva (N. Y.) Experiment Station report:—"In no other way can the corn crop be so economically harvested, and both grain and stalks be so well prepared, almost regardless of the vicissitudes of weather, as in placing it, when at its maximum food value, promptly in silo, where, until consumed, it requires no further care and expense."

Do not feed the cows, that are giving milk, straw and allow idle horses to eat all the hay. It is also poor economy to feed young cattle and horses hay at the beginning of winter and have to feed dry straw during the warm spring months. Fresh straw is relished in the early winter, while nothing but shear hunger will induce stock to eat it in the spring season. When one has a supply of both clover and timothy hay, the former will do much better service to all kinds of stock in the spring months.

A few years ago the Dominion Government made strenuous efforts to boom two-rowed barley, but it has not proved a success in the barley districts of Ontario. The "Prize Prolific" (the variety distributed by the Government) was certainly too late in maturing to be of any use in this country. There are much earlier varieties. (See Experimental Farm reports in *ADVOCATE* of December 20th, 1893, and January 5th, 1894.) We shall be pleased to hear the opinions of any who have experimented with any of the barleys.

In a recent issue of *Cosmos*, M. Laverune makes some interesting statements concerning the use of bread. In early historic time, men were not familiar with the preparation of wheat flour, which we call bread, and to-day there are whole populations entirely ignorant of its use. In the vast empire of China, for example, containing a quarter of the human race, bread, as we understand the term, is used in one Province only. The bread-eaters are still a minority in the world. No more than five hundred millions of persons habitually consume wheat bread. Even in Europe, great numbers of the people who eat bread are reduced to use an inferior article made of coarse cereals and pulses, and indifferently prepared.

We would call the special attention of our readers to the article on "Flax and Two-rowed Barley," by Mr. Wallace, Niverville, which appears in this issue. Certainly, flax at \$1.00 per bushel, and yielding twenty bushels per acre, looks much more profitable than wheat at present values. Last year flax dropped to 70 cents, the lowest price reached for several years. This year, on account of the almost total failure of this crop in the States and the removal of the duty by the U. S. Government, American buyers have come in and forced the price up sky-high. In the *ADVOCATE* of February 5th last, we drew special attention to this crop, and recommended it as a profitable substitute for wheat, suggesting that it be tried in a small way at first. Flax does well on new breaking, sown any time before first of June, but, as it comes away slowly at the start, should only be sown on very clean land where old land is used. The difficulties mentioned by Mr. Wallace in harvesting, and subsequent handling, are very real, and we should like to hear from any who have had experience with this crop. Mr. Wallace's suggestion that the experimental farms make some tests with flax is a good one, and should, we think, be acted upon.

Our Illustration.

We take pleasure in bringing before the attention of our readers, as a first page illustration in this issue, an excellent portrait of the famous old-time English Thoroughbred horse, "Touchstone," bred by the Marquis of Westminster, in 1831. He was a brown horse by Camel, out of Banter by Master Henry, her dam Boadicia by Alexander, out of Brunette by Amaranthus—Mayfly, by Match'em—Ancaster Starling. Not only was he a handsome horse of typical conformation, very "breedy" in appearance, but a race-horse as well. The records of his day give the following list of his winnings on the turf for five years, the Cups and Plates being given by their value in specie:—In 1833, £50; in 1834, £2,675; in 1835, £1,200; in 1836, £1,040; in 1837, £450. Total, £5,475.

Between 1838 and 1843 he stood at Moor Park and Eaton, his service fee being 40 guineas per mare.

The following were some of the principal winners got by Touchstone:—Auckland, Ameer, Audry, Blue Bonnet (winner of the St. Ledger), Cotherstone (winner of the Derby), Celia, Dil-bar, Fanny Eden, Gaiety, Jack, Lady Adela, Orlando, Phryne, and Rosalind.

His stock first came out in 1841, as two-year-olds, when they won amongst them, in public money, £300; in 1842, £9,530, and in 1843, £20,454.

Our portrait is reproduced from an old steel engraving.

Cheeky and Dishonest.

The *FARMER'S ADVOCATE* has almost become case-hardened from seeing its pages pilfered and its productions appropriated *holus bolus* without any credit being given. We long since ceased to notice a good deal of this petty larceny, in consideration of the good that might follow the further spread, even though very limited in extent, of such information, the circulation of these periodicals being usually small and spasmodic. There has come to our notice this month an instance too glaring and barefaced to be allowed to pass without censure—there are times when patience ceases to be a virtue. We refer to a cut in the *St. Louis Journal of Agriculture* of October 4th, under which appear the words "Group of Oxford-Down Sheep from the flock of T. B. Evans, Geneva, Ill., breeder and importer." The editorial article referring to the illustration is headed "Pure Oxford-Down Sheep," and claims that the illustration was "from life." Those who have on hand the *FARMER'S ADVOCATE* of July, 1889, will see the original from which the cut referred to has been reproduced. It is actually a faithful representation of a group of Shropshires, then owned by the Hon. John Dryden, M. P. P., Brooklin, Ontario, consisting of the ram, Prince of Wales, and seven of his get, that won the handsome silver cup offered by the English Shropshire Association, for competition at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition. In order to carry out the deception, a little of the wool was removed from the faces of the sheep in the illustration. Although the utter dishonesty of such an action is itself deserving of exposure, we consider the misrepresentation to the unsophisticated Missourians, by not only appropriating our Shropshire illustration, but labeling it "Oxford-Downs," a still more disreputable procedure on the part of any breeder or editor, and which should not help them in their future dealings with the public.

By this time all the food for the coming winter is housed or put in safe keeping, except, possibly, some of the roots, which will be in by the end of this month. When this is all done, a farmer generally feels satisfied that his stock will fare well till grass comes next spring. That will be quite right in many cases, but there is sometimes danger of a shortage, caused, perhaps, by waste in feeding, or the waste may come from cold and draughty stabling, which will demand a more liberal supply of food to keep the stock from failing. There is an easy and practicable way out of this difficulty. Tanned felting or building paper can be bought very cheaply, and the amount of tacks and lath to fasten it to a wall will not cost much. Two men, in two rainy days, can line up a large building. The effect will far exceed your expectations. Some old stables get a supply of sawdust between the siding and lining; but this is a troublesome method, and has the effect of harboring mice and rats. Tar paper will last for years, and its tarry odor is wholesome. The writer recommends it from his own experience with an old clap-board stable five years ago.

"The Country Around Emerson."

One of our staff, who recently visited the above district, spent a few days driving in the country around the town of Emerson, and was surprised to see the large and excellent grain-growing facilities this portion of Manitoba affords. North of the town is a range of territory surveyed into river lots, running two miles from the river east and west, most of which is cultivated. These river lots are much wider than those in the vicinity of Winnipeg, affording the settlers a better opportunity to cultivate them to advantage. Extending beyond the two-mile frontage, the regular square survey prevails, and many of the settlers owning river lots have purchased sections in rear.

Seven miles north of Emerson, on the west side of the river, is the farm of Messrs. Thos. C. and Walter Scott, being composed of ten chains river frontage, running two miles back and a quarter section in the immediate rear. Over eighteen years ago Mr. Thos. C. Scott emigrated from Ontario with his family and settled on this property, and has since farmed it, growing principally wheat.

The farm is now operated chiefly by his son Walter, who, besides growing grain on an extensive scale, has forty-three grade Berkshire swine, and is laying the foundation for a good herd of milch cows, headed by a neat Ayrshire bull, Albion—1699—, bred by Caldwell Bros., Orchardville, Ont., and the pure-bred cow Jennie—562—. Besides these, he has a few young Ayrshire heifers of good promise.

A noticeable feature is Mr. Scott's system of feeding his swine. In the centre of two large pens there is built a feed hopper into which dry grain or chop is put and descends by spouts on each side to the base, which is divided into small racks of equal size, around which the pigs gather and feed. These racks are so constructed that only one pig can feed in each allotted space, and no food is wasted. Separate water troughs are placed in the pens. At the time of the writer's visit Mr. Scott was feeding whole barley, and his pigs were thriving well.

Driving north-west, a short distance from this farm, the frame-work for an extensive cheese factory was noticed, the machinery for which is now ordered and will doubtless be in active operation next summer. The farmers in the vicinity are preparing for it by purchasing milch cows.

West from here, about six miles, is the village of Letellier, which is surrounded by an extensive area of grain-producing land, most of which has been under cultivation this year and produced a very satisfactory return per acre.

Many patches of flax were noticed, and, in the opinion of farmers, this is a profitable crop, selling at \$1.10 per bushel.

South of Letellier, in the Marair district, is the farm of Mr. Edward Davis. Running south and west, almost surrounding house and stables, is a pleasing grove of maple and cottonwood trees. Whilst affording a good shelter, this grove adds a very attractive appearance to this prairie farm. Mr. Davis informed the writer that nine years ago this now handsome little forest was taken over by him from St. Vincent in a single buggy, having purchased these trees when young and small plants from a Crookston nursery. To any farmer living on the prairies of Manitoba, having doubts as to whether his farm can be sheltered or not, if they will seek and accept the advice of Mr. Davis as to planting and care of trees, this doubt can quickly be removed. A nice herd of Shorthorns, Poland-China and Berkshire swine can also be seen on this farm. Mr. Davis is also a large grain grower, and it is his opinion that corn can be grown to great advantage.

Farther south-east, and not far distant from Emerson, is the large farm of Messrs. D. Fraser & Sons, the most extensive breeders of Poland-China hogs in the Province. At the late Winnipeg Industrial, Poland-Chinas from this farm captured many prizes and were easy winners. This firm are also notable stock feeders, having won prizes for fat stock. They also own a large herd of Shorthorns.

East from Emerson a short distance is the cheese factory lately owned by J. E. Thompson, an illustration and description of which appeared in the July, 1892, issue of the *ADVOCATE*. This factory is now operated and managed by a nephew of the former owner, who, besides handling the milk from a large herd of cows kept on the farm on which the factory is built, is supplied daily with milk from farmers living in the near vicinity who keep cows.

A short drive farther east and south the farm of W. J. Young, the well-known Manitoba Holstein breeder, is reached. This herd is too well known to readers of the *ADVOCATE* to require any mention here. A section of choice farming land is embraced in this farm. Mr. Young has a good frame house and large barn and has done considerable tree planting. The trees appear to be growing well and in a few years will afford shelter to his buildings, besides adding a beautiful and homelike appearance to the place. A row of gooseberry and currant bushes were noticed on each side of the road entering to Mr. Young's house.

Perhaps some people think I am a fertilizer crank. I have written much on the subject. How could I do otherwise when good superphosphates have doubled my potato yield, as this year; more than doubled my wheat yield, as this year and often before.—W. I. Chamberlain.